

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016953

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1-2, 4-17 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 3 received by this Authority on 15.09.2005
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 3-12 as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1 received by this Authority on 15.09.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets fig. 1-16 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, nos. 2
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1, 3-12</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1, 3-12</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1, 3-12</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
<p>Document 1: JP 8-162145 A (The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.), 21 June 1996</p> <p>Document 2: JP 2002-175818 A (Honda Motor Co., Ltd.), 21 June 2002</p> <p>Document 3: JP 2003-178776 A (Toyota Motor Corp.), 27 June 2003</p> <p>Document 4: JP 10-55813 A (Aisin Seiki Co., Ltd.), 24 February 1998</p> <p>Document 5: JP 10-289722 A (Sanyo Electric Co., Ltd.), 27 October 1998</p> <p>Claims 1 and 3 to 12 are novel and involve an inventive step in relation to all of the documents that are cited in the international search report.</p> <p>That is to say, the "fuel cell equipped with a tabular solid polymer electrolyte; a cathode-side electrode plate that is disposed on one side of said solid polymer electrolyte; an anode-side electrode plate that is disposed on the other side of said solid polymer electrolyte; a cathode-side metal plate that allows a gas to flow into the interior, which is disposed on the surface of the aforementioned cathode-side electrode plate; and an anode-side metal plate that allows the fuel</p>			

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	<p>to flow into the interior, which is disposed on the surface of the aforementioned anode-side electrode plate; said fuel cell being configured so that the peripheral edges of the aforementioned solid polymer electrolyte protrude from the aforementioned electrode plates on both sides of the aforementioned solid polymer electrolyte, so that said peripheral edges are held between the aforementioned metal plates that face said peripheral edges, and so that the peripheral edges of the aforementioned metal plates on both sides of the aforementioned solid polymer electrolyte are mechanically sealed by means of a bending press while in an electrically insulated state" is not disclosed or suggested in any of the documents that are cited in the international search report.</p>